CAN

Collaborative Assistance Network

MINUTES

Wednesday, September 12, 2012

Town Hall, Conference Room C

10:30AM

Present:

Deb Adamczyk, Kelly Allen, Susan Angelides, Anne Bladen, Susan Daley, Kathleen Krider, Rachel Leclerc (in at 10:52), Avery Lanhart, Susan Rozelle and Jillene Woodmansee

WHAT (Topic)	DISCUSSION	OUTCOME
Call to Order	K. Krider called the meeting to order at 10:35am.	
Introductions	All present introduced themselves.	
New Business	1. Overview of purpose of CAN for 2012 a. Historical background K. Krider gave background information regarding CAN. She noted that can previously WAS used as an opportunity for Early Care and Education Centers to bring forward specific children having potential needs and was an for members of CAN to discuss and brainstorm solutions for these children. b. New view K. Krider gave a brief overview of the Town's School Readiness Grant which is awarded by the State Department of Education (SDE) and which provides Mansfield families with financial assistance towards quality early care and education when they might not otherwise be able to afford it. K. Krider also discussed the Discovery Grant which is	A. Bladen and S. Daley will
	awarded to the Town of Mansfield through the Graustein Memorial Fund (GMF) and its function within the Town. She noted that both funders, the SDE and the GMF, mandate that the Town have and implement a Transition to Kindergarten Plan and it is her vision to have CAN develop this in the next year.	work to find a definition of "transition" from the SDE and GMF.

Members discussed how Mansfield may be a unique community with regard to its diverse Early Care and Education programs available for families. Members also discussed Mansfield as a unique community because the School Readiness funding is not through the Board of Education and used for preschool located in the elementary schools.

2. Quality Enhancement Grant Program for School Readiness Municipalities (July 1, 2012 to June 20, 2013)

K. Krider explained that the SDE has offered Towns a Quality Enhancement Grant in the amount of \$4,000 and that one of the criteria for applying is to create a network which includes the home care providers, something which is missing in Mansfield. Members discussed the SDE Framework and that some providers are utilizing it while others are not.

Members discussed the idea of utilizing the QE funds for training in the benchmarks.

It was suggested that K. Krider look at utilizing the QE grant to fund the literacy program developed by members of MAC and the Superintendent of Schools which provides literacy assistance to children throughout the summer months.

3. Inclusion of Home Providers

a. Ideas

b. Past Experiences

Members discussed if and how the home providers had been included in training opportunities in the past.

Members discussed that licensing of home care providers happens through the Department of Health and not through the SDE.

4. Meeting time

a. Location, feedback

Members discussed that it may be beneficial to have a K teacher and the children's librarian at CAN.

Members discussed when the best time to hold the regular CAN meetings are.

Members noted that if there are specific children the centers would like to discuss that they can notify R. Leclerc who will refer them appropriately.

K. Krider will email the specific criteria for application of the QE Grant.

J. Woodmansee will send out a doodle poll to find out if there is a better date and time to hold the CAN regular meetings.

Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 11:35am.	
	Next CAN Meeting: TBD	
	Agenda topics: Please send to Kathleen at kriderk@mansfieldct.org	
	Respectfully submitted, Jillene B. Woodmansee Assistant to the Early Childhood Services Coordinator	